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 Council

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Group to Ask CIA to Reveal Role of Media

Racine, Wis. —UPI— The National News Council agreed Tuesday to ask the CIA for a statement concerning the agency's position on reports that some members of the news media had worked as CIA agents.

The reports, council members said, presented a problem for the credibility of all reporters.

Council members authorized the draft of a letter to the CIA

that would state their concern over the reports, ask the agency to clarify its position and ask for assurances such incidents would not occur in the future.

Loren Ghiglione, council secretary and editor and publisher of the Southbridge (Mass.) Evening News, also proposed that the council ask the agency to disclose the names of any members of the media who may have been employed by the CIA. The motion was rejected.

Several council members said disclosing names would damage the careers of members of the media who might have been on the CIA payroll in the past, but had since discontinued their association with the agency.

The council also decided not

to act on a complaint alleging inaccuracies in the CBS documentary "The Guns of Autumn," which concerned hunting in America. Citing a court case in Michigan concerning the program, the council noted its bylaws prohibit consideration of complaints while court or administrative action is pending.

The council was established in 1973 to examine allegations of inaccuracy in reporting by national news suppliers.